12179-P081US PATENT

REMARKS

Based on decision by the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences, filed on February 24, 2005, claims 14, 16, 18-21, 27, 28, 31, 32, and 37-39 are canceled as a result of the Board's affirmation in part of the Examiner's rejections. Claims 29, 30, 33-35, and 40-41 are rewritten in independent form, placing them in condition for allowance as a result of the Board's reversal in part of the Examiner's rejections. Claims 17, 55 and 22-25 are presently in condition for allowance as a result of the Board's reversal in part of the Examiner's rejections.

As a result of the foregoing, it is asserted by Applicants that claims 17, 55, 22-25, 29, 30, 33-35, and 40-41 in the Application are in condition for allowance, and Applicants respectfully request an allowance of such claims. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner call Applicants' attorney at the below listed number if the Examiner believes that such a discussion would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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